DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Quinton DATE 5-9-03
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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379

PRESS GUIDANCE

DECLASSIFIED

Q - We have a report that explosive sniffing dogs, accompanied by two professional handlers from Nashville, Tennessee, have just been sent to Rome airport. Is there any unusual security threat at Rome airport?

A - Explosive sniffing dogs have proved valuable in supplementing other methods to detect explosives. In this case, the dogs have been sent to Rome, at the request of the Italian government, to strengthen our FAA technical assistance programs.

Q - We have noted the more stringent screening measures being taken by US carriers operating through Rome. Is there any special reason for this?

A - The Italian government, in accordance with guidelines laid down by the International Civil Aviation Organization, is responsible for judging the security measures appropriate to the circumstances. I suggest you direct the question to the Italian authorities.

Q - Has the American Embassy stopped official government travel out of Rome on any US carriers?

A - Yes, a temporary ban on such travel was imposed. It has since been lifted.

UNCLASSIFIED

M/CT:HIsham:pd 11/25/77